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The Balance, AND COLUMBIAN REPOSITORY.

" HAIL SACRED POLITY, BY FREEDOM REAR'D !
" HAIL SACRED FREEDOM, WHEN BY LAW RESTRAIN'D !"
BEATTIE.

HUDSON, (New-York) TUESDAY, February 22, 1803.

Original Eſſays.

Hither the products of your closet-labors bring,
Enrich our columns, and instruct mankind.

FOR THE BALANCE.

SKETCHES OF THE LIFE OF MAHOMET.

THE impoſtor Mahomet, was deſcended in a direct line, from Iſhmael a ſon of Abraham ; and his immediate anceſtors were among the principal men of the tribe of Koreſh. This wonderful man, who, in ſucceſſive generations, has given both a civil and religious polity to many thouſands of millions of the human race, was born at Mecca in Arabia, in the year of our Lord, five hundred and ſeventy-eight. Though deſcended from an illuſtrious anceſtry, he was, in his infancy, a deſtitute orphan. His father, Abdi Allah, dying young, left his widow and Mahomet his infant ſon, in very poor circumſtances. Mahomet was brought up to the buſineſs of merchandize ; for which his nation was famous. The Arabians or Iſhmaelites were among the firſt merchants of whom hiſtory gives any account. It was a company of merchants, belonging to this nation, that bought Joſeph of his brethren and ſold him into Egypt.—It was the fortune of Mahomet to be engaged in the ſervice of Khadijah, a rich and noble widow, who employed him as her factor in trade, and was ſo pleaſed with his perſon and conduct, that ſhe gave him her hand in marriage, when he was twenty-five years of age. This event gave ſcope to that inordinate ambition, which before had probably lein dormant in Mahomet's mind.

Some chriſtian writers, in their zeal to vilify the impoſtor, have declared that he was deſtitute of talents, and ſo unlearned that he was unable even to write. Theſe abſurdities confute themſelves. It is the height of folly to ſuppoſe a man to have been incapable of writing, who was bred up a merchant, and had been employed as a factor in extenſive mercantile concerns ; and it is equal folly to believe a man to have been deſtitute of talents, who by various cunning artifices, compleatly effected both a religious and civil revolution over near one third of the globe. There is no doubt but Mahomet was a perſon of conſiderable learning, and of a moſt ſhrewd and artful mind. Having become rich by his marriage with Khadijah, and purſuing a line of buſineſs that led him into an acquaintance with people of different nations, he carefully ſtudied *men*, and at length formed the ſcheme of immortalizing himſelf by the eſtabliſhment of a new religion. The time was peculiarly favourable to this daring ſcheme of the impoſtor. The declining ſtate of the Perſians, the luxury and effeminacy of the Greeks, and the ignorant, corrupt and diſtracted condition of the chriſtian nations generally, at that juncture, both encouraged and facilitated the projects of Mahomet. Having formed and digeſted the plan of introducing a new religion, which, while it contained ſome great truths, ſhould be accomodated to the taſte of the moſt ſenſual and debauched, he, at the age of forty, in order to obtain the character of inſpiration, betook himſelf to a cave. In this receſs, he pretended to have had familiar conferences with the ſupreme being, and with holy angels. *Here*, according to his own account, the angel Gabriel, having wrung out *the black drop*, or original ſin, from Mahomet's heart, waſhed and cleanſed it and filled it with faith and wiſdom. *Here* he compoſed the Koran, aſſiſted, as has been ſuppoſed, by Boheira a Neſtorian monk. Strange *fits* of the epileptic kind, with which Mahomet was viſited, were artfully improved by him to ſtrengthen his pretenſions to divine inſpiration.

After he had lived long enough in the cave to prepare himſelf for his pretended divine miſſion, he returned to his family ; and his firſt object, in which he ſoon ſucceeded, was to convert his wife, his domeſtics and his neareſt relations to the faith of the Koran. For about three years, he was cautious and taught privately ; when, becoming bold and open, the people of his tribe were ſo exaſperated againſt him that, to eſcape aſſaſſination from their hands, he fled to Medina. From this epoch, which in Arabia is called Hegira, that is flight, the Mahometans compute their time, in the ſame manner as the Chriſtians compute their time from the birth of our Saviour. After the flight of Mahomet to Medina, his diſciples increaſed faſt ; and his profeſſions and behaviour continued, a number of years, to be mild and conciliating. He declared that his buſineſs was only to teach and admoniſh ; and that he had no commiſſion to compel men to embrace his religion. At length, fired with ambition and ſtung with reſentment againſt his oppoſers, he threw off the maſk and erected the *bloody flag ;* declaring, in ſubſtance, that God had commiſſioned him to deſtroy the lives of ſuch

as ſhould refuſe to ſubmit to the Koran. This pretended divine commiſſion was executed, by Mahomet and his ſucceſſors in office, with the utmoſt rigour. The Mahometans, uſing the irreſiſtable logic of the ſword and of all manner of cruelties, propagated and eſtabliſhed their religion in Aſia, in Europe and in Africa; and overſpread countries, once enlightened and free, with hedious darkneſs and with the moſt horrid deſpotiſm.

A vaſt and mighty nation has been raiſed up, within a little more than one century, out of chaos, as it were, which threatens the ſpeedy downfall of the Mahometan power. Both Turkey and Perſia, which are the vitals of Mahometiſm, weakened and diſtracted with internal diviſions, behold the rapid growth of the Ruſſian power, with jealouſy and fear; and are probably deſtined to fall before it.

Z.

NOTE.

The Hegira, or flight of Mahomet, from which Mahometans commenced their era, happened in the year of Christ, 622; therefore the present year, according to their Calender, is dated, 1181.

Political.

FOR THE BALANCE.

To the EDITOR.

AT this alarming criſis, while political doctrines are advanced and meaſures are attempted, by men high in office, which are utterly ſubverſive of the liberty of the preſs, it is neceſſary to teſt the preſent conduct of ſome of the leaders of the democrats with their former profeſſions and to expoſe their hypocriſy to the view of the public. For this purpoſe, I requeſt you to republiſh an extract from a pamphlet, containing a number of letters, which were directed to preſident Adams: and alſo to publiſh my remarks upon it. At the ſame time, I adviſe you to be cautious; for the late reſolve of the Virginia aſſembly, and the ſpeech of Governor M'Kean, which have been ſoon followed by a public avowal, that *truth itſelf* is a libel, induce me to believe that there is a ſyſtematic plan to muzzle the federal preſſes.

Your *monitorial* and *agricultural* departments are ſafe: but, in regard to politics, I warn you not to publiſh the *whole* truth. You may yet have cauſe bitterly to remember the old adage, namely, "the truth is not to be ſpoken at all times."—Wherefore, if there ſhould be any ſentiment in my remarks, that will expoſe you to the laſh of the new *republican* law, I wiſh you to ſuppreſs it. But to the point.—In the firſt number of the aforementioned pamphlet, the writer, after declaring the ſedition law to be unconſtitutional, proceeds and concludes as follows:

"Yet, Sir, however clear your opinion, "however decided your conviction may "be, on this great conſtitutional queſtion, "there is one point in which we muſt all "agree. It is a truth, which cannot be "denied, a truth ſupported by facts, as "notorious as they are alarming, that the "ſedition bill is in the higheſt degree "dangerous and inexpedient. In this part "of the world it is juſtly regarded as an "attack on the liberty of the preſs, and has "rouſed the attention of the moſt ſupine. "It has inflamed that ſpirit of ſuſpicion "and diſcontent, which, unfortunately for "the people, has been already too power-"fully excited, and has a direct and obvious "tendency to produce the very crime "which it profeſſes to puniſh. God for-"bid that I ſhould ſay, that ſuch was the "object for which the law was made. If "I entertained an opinion ſo diſhonorable "to my countrymen, ſo diſgraceful to "humanity, my ſoul would ſink with "horror and deſpair. But I cannot deſ-"pair. Truth, liberty, and virtue, muſt "prevail in America, and I therefore, be-"lieve, that the ſervants of the people, will "not continue a law, merely becauſe it "has paſſed, when they know, when they "ſee, that the evil which it has already pro-"duced, infinitely outweighs all the good "which they expected to obtain.

"HORTENSIUS.

"*Virginia, Jan.* 1799."

REMARKS.

Col. Hay, one of the leaders of the Virginia democrats, was the avowed author of the letters to Mr. Adams, ſigned "Hortenſius." He was a friend of Callender, and advocated his cauſe, as an attorney, when he was proſecuted for a libel againſt the Senate of the United States. While Callender was publiſhing "The Proſpect before Us;" while Duane was continually pouring forth torrents of abuſe upon the federal adminiſtration, and accuſing every department of the government with the vileſt corruption, Col. Hay was a mighty ſtickler for the liberty of the preſs. But mark the man!—He and his friends are now in power; and it is no longer neceſſary that the preſſes ſhould be free.—This ſame Col. Hay has lately thrown a printer into jail, for refuſing to give bonds for his good behaviour; that is to ſay, for refuſing to bind himſelf and ſureties in the penal ſum of a thouſand dollars, that he would not utter or publiſh aught, which the democrats might deem a libel! But Col. Hay is a republican and patriot. Robeſpirre and Marat were alſo republicans and patriots, and were zealous declaimers for the liberty of the preſs, till they had thruſt themſelves into power; and then, if any printer preſumed to publiſh any thing againſt their conduct or was even ſuſpected of ſuch a deſign, off went his head, without a trial.

I intended to have applied ſome remarks nearer home. It is reported that Mr. Spencer was among the loudeſt in exclaiming againſt the oppreſſion and tyranny of the Sedition Law, and againſt the federal adminiſtration, for paſſing it.—However, Mr. Spencer was then in the minority; and might think it neceſſary that every battery ſhould be opened againſt the wicked federaliſts, who then held the reins of government. "Circumſtances alter caſes." This ſame Mr. Spencer, I am informed, has lately avowed principles and attempted meaſures, in compariſon with which, the Sedition Law was *mildneſs itſelf*.——So the world goes—but enough.—Mr. Spencer is Attorney-General, and the federal printers, in this ſtate, ſeem to be in his hands: therefore, I ſay again *beware*.

OBSERVER.

FOR THE BALANCE.

A CITIZEN requeſts the people of Hudſon, as well the democrats as the federaliſts, ſeriouſly to conſider the bitter fruits of *the new order of things*, in this little city, particularly reſpecting the late aſtoniſhing increaſe of the number of juſtices' courts.

Our former city juſtices, Pitkin and Northrop, had comparatively but little official buſineſs. A jury-caſe, before them, was a very rare thing: it did not happen, I believe, as often as once a quarter. But mark the change! Juſtices' courts in this place, within two years, have multiplied nearly four-fold; and jury caſes, perhaps ten-fold. Men are almoſt daily called off from their buſineſs to attend, as jurymen, at the courts of juſtices. Time is waſted, a ſaunterſng idle habit is engendered and cheriſhed, oaths are multiplied, morals are corrupted, expences are incurred; and indeed a ſwarm of ruinous evils are flowing in upon us, from this poiſonous ſource.

Without making any perſonal reflections, I would ſay generally, that, while a capable juſtice of the peace, who acts as a *peace-maker*, is an ineſtimable bleſſing to ſociety, a juſtice of the peace, (falſely ſo called,) who, with a view to make money by his office, encourages wrangling, and law-ſuits, is among the

greateſt of curſes which can befal a people.—He is a more horrible ſcourge than the yellow fever. X.

Balance Closet.

LIBERTY OF THE PRESS.

No. I.

OUR readers have been presented with an accurate and impartial account of the late transaction in this county, relating to the liberty of the press. A fair statement of the conduct of the public prosecutor, on this occasion, has been laid before them, together with the defence set up by the defendant's counsel, the decision of the court on the motion for shackling the press with previous restraints, &c. The transaction, we find, has excited much of the public interest. Moderate men, of all parties, have beheld, with astonishment, this extraordinary attempt to screen the conduct of the first magistrate of our country from investigation. They have heard, with amazement, that alarming doctrine advanced by the Attorney-General, that, for publishing the TRUTH concerning our rulers, a printer is liable to punishment by fine and imprisonment.—They have been surprized at the recent conduct of men, who, but a short time since, were the loudest and most violent declaimers against a law, which merely had for its object, the punishment of scandalous and malicious falshoods. This transaction has furnished the people with an invaluable piece of instruction. It has brought home to their minds a solemn truth, which political writers might have laboured for ages, in vain, to inculcate. It has taught them, that the professions and promises of an aspiring demagogue, are like the gaudy trappings of a painted harlot, put on to entrap the unwary and to deceive the unsuspecting; and it has convinced them, that those are not always the real "saviours of the republic," who proclaim their patriotism upon the house-top.

It cannot be expected that we shall sit calmly down, and brood over this affair in silence. The man is scarcely deserving of liberty, who can behold, with indifference, any attempt which may be made to wrest that liberty from him; and who will not exert himself to preserve it inviolate from the ruthless hand of tyranny. We feel no inclination to relinquish a right guaranteed by our constitution. But if we must be deprived of the most inestimable privilege, by a forced construction of our laws, we shall submit with all that good grace which characterizes the orderly citizens; but not with that spaniel-like servility, which would prompt us to kiss the hand that scourges us.

In the remarks which we may offer, from time to time, under the head of the "Liberty of the Press," we shall be guided by candor and impartiality. If we feel that we have been injured; if the wrongs which we have suffered, or which we are likely to suffer, are aggravating in the extreme, still we must not expect to obtain redress by taunting invective or violent declamation. A public printer ought to have a nobler object in view, than the mere gratification of personal resentment. When events happen, from which instruction may be drawn, it becomes the duty of editors of newspapers, to treat of them in a manner which they deem most likely to promote the public good. This will be our aim in the present instance We shall draw a contrast between the Sedition Law and the Common Law against Libels. We shall shew that the Sedition Law was an amelioration of the Common Law, inasmuch as it permitted the publication of *truth*, and limited the amount of fine, and the term of imprisonment for seditious falshoods. We shall shew that the Sedition Law met with the decided opposition of the democratic party, from the highest to the lowest—from the majorities of state legislatures, to the most obscure individuals—and that prosecutions have been commenced by the same party, under the most rigorous construction of the common law. We shall shew that much the greatest number of scurilous publications have issued from the democratic presses—and that Washington and Adams suffered more slander and abuse from a single democratic print, than ever Jefferson has received from all the federal presses in the union. We shall contrast the former professions of certain men, with their present conduct; by which we shal shew that their sentiments on the liberty of the press changed from one extreme to the other, precisely at the moment that the administration of our government passed out of the hands of John Adams into those of Thomas Jefferson. We shall take a particular view of the manner in which Mr. Spencer has thought proper to discharge his public trust; by which we shall shew that *consistency*, at least, forms no part of his character. When these truths are fully exhibited, we cannot but believe, that every honest democrat, who has been deceived by false appearances, and beguiled by false promises, will instantly burst the shackles of delusion, and embrace those genuine principles of republicanism, which alone can save our country from utter destruction.

Mr. JEFFERSON's PROPHECY.

In Greenleaf's New-York Journal and Patriotic Register, 1798, the editor says, "It should be a custom with the printers of *republican* newspapers, in our country, to publish, at least once a year, the following *prophetic* remarks of Thomas Jefferson Esq; written during our late struggle for independence; they display, in few words, the philosopher, the statesman, the patriot and the man of penetration. The truth of them, we believe, will not be contested by even the advocates for *infalibility* and British influence."

The prophecy follows;—here it is.

"But is the spirit of the people (says Mr. Jefferson) an infallible, a permanent reliance? Is this the kind of protection we receive in return for the rights we give up?——Besides, the spirit of the times may alter, *will* alter. *Our rulers will become corrupt*, our people careless. *A single zealot may commence persecutor, and better men be his victims, &c.*"

We offer no comment.

A letter from a gentleman in Washington to the editor of the National Aegis, states, that Tom Paine "is well drest, and appears like a gentleman;" that "he is very temperate," and that he is "a living volume of information." It adds that Paine "means to recommence his political publications," and that "The federal papers, as he says, will republish his communications."—"*If they do not, they will lose their customers; and if they do, they will lose their cause.*" ! ! !——Well done, Tom Paine! Your vanity has led your judgment (if you possess any) astray. If the federal printers do not republish your communications, they will lose their customers! To prove this a small mistake, we need only state, that a certain federal paper, in which but a *part of one* of Paine's communications has been published, has gained more than two hundred customers, since his landing in America That the federalists will lose their cause, by re-publishing Paine's trash, is, we presume, only the *modest* opinion of that "living volume of information" himself. Because he has blasphemed, the saviour of the world; and slandered the father of federalism, with impunity, he must not puff himself up with the ridiculous idea that his goose-quill is a magic wand, by the touch of which he can conquer his thousands and tens of thousands.

JUNIUS.

A writer in the Wilmington Mirror, who signs "T. Rodney," declares positively, that Major general CHARLES LEE, of the American Army, was the real author of the Letters of JUNIUS. He states that Gen. Lee communicated the secret to him alone, exacting a promise that it should not be divulged during his (Lee's) life.

JOHN D. BURK, an imported patriot, has issued propesals for writing and publishing the *History of Virginia*. The Americans are certainly a blest people. Their political instructors, their historians, some of their rulers, and "the organ of their will," have but just *come over*.—And this is not all.—The state of Delaware, is to have the distinguished honor of being represented in Congress, by a man who obtained his seat by the suffrages of foreigners, whose votes have, since the election, been declared *illegal* by a grand-jury.

"Hail, Columbia, happy land!"

A straggling number of the *Providence Phoenix*, which we have lately received, contains the following *elegant* paragraph. The editor of that paper says, the harshness of the expressions will be excused *for the sake of the humor of the ideas.*

"The Federalists during their administration, "played the Devil and burnt down two public offices, and now they are all in a fever because the "Republicans don't raise *Hell* and burn the city."

Now this is true democratic decency—genuine grog-shop humour. It is all false, to be sure; but, what then?—If there had been any truth in it, the "humor" as well as the *wit* would have been lost-

Agricultural.

FOR THE BALANCE.

ON FOREST-TREES.

As wood is among the neceſſaries of life, a foreſt is a neceſſary appendage to every farm. Foreſt-trees have the power of re-producing themſelves as well from their roots as from their ſeeds; and but for ſhamefully bad management, they would be found growing in ſufficient numbers in almoſt every part of this country. A farmer's wood-lot ſhould be nearly as much the object of his care as his orchard. Wood-lots ſhould remain untouched, during the ſeaſons of ſpring and ſummer; becauſe, the wood being then full of ſap, is leſs durable for timber and leſs valuable for fuel; and becauſe the roots, being nearly exhauſted of ſap, have not ſtrength to ſhoot forth again. Wood ſhould be felled or cut down, between the months of November and March. This circumſtance renders it more durable in timber; and cauſes it, when uſed in fuel, to yield more heat, with leſs ſmoke: at the ſame time, the roots being abundantly repleniſhed with ſap, which is the blood of plants, are able to ſhoot forth a new progeny.

In applying the axe to a wood-lot, which the owner would wiſh to perpetuate by a ſeries of reproductions, the beſt method is to cut down every tree, as far as the axe-man goes. This will give the young and tender progeny the neceſſary advantages of a free circulation of the air, and of the unobſtructed rays of the ſun; whereas if ſome of the large trees be left, the ſhoots, which ſpring up from the ſtumps of the others, will languiſh beneath their ſhade. The part of a wood-lot, that is felled by the axe, ſhould be kept as carefully fenced as a corn-field: or otherwiſe the browſing of cattle, eſpecially in the ſpring of the year, will poiſon and deſtroy the riſing tendrils. Care ſhould alſo be uſed to pluck off a part of the tendrils or ſhoots around the ſtumps; leaving only, by the ſides of each ſtump, two or three of the moſt large and thrifty.

By ſuch a prudent management, a wood-lot might be rendered a perpetual fund of timber and fuel.

Monitorial Department.

To aid the cause of virtue and religion.

FOR THE BALANCE.

DOCUMENTS CONCERNING THE EXISTENCE OF NOAH's DELUGE.

According to Richard Kirwin, Eſq. vaſt heaps of marine ſhells, which lie remote from any ſea-ſhores, have ſometimes been found, on examination, to be not only of different kinds, but alſo ſuch as belong to different climates; which plainly betokens that there has been a confluence of the ſeveral oceans over the earth. The ſame writer quotes the teſtimony of Don Ulloa, that ſhells have been found on a mountain, in Peru, at the height of fourteen thouſand two hundred and twenty feet.

It is further mentioned on reſpectable authority, that the bones of elephants and rhinoceri have been found in the lower parts of Siberia. Theſe animals, it is known, belong to warm climates; and cannot live, in the open air, in countries which are extremely cold. It is abſurd to ſuppoſe that they had wandered ſpontaneouſly, thouſands of miles from their native and congenial climes, into the North of Siberia, the region of eternal froſt. It is even impoſſible that they could have endured the extreme cold on their way thither. Moſt probable it ſeems to be, that their carcaſes were brought into that froſty region by a deluge of waters. There is alſo this remarkable circumſtance to be noticed, namely, that the part of Siberia where the aforementioned bones and carcaſes have been found, is ſeparated by continued chains of lofty mountains, from the oceans and from the warm regions which the elephant and the rhinoceros inhabit: therefore if their carcaſes were brought thither by a deluge, the waters thereof muſt have riſen ſo high as to have wafted them over the tops of thoſe mountains.

Moſes's hiſtory of the deluge will lead us to account for theſe phenomena; and certainly it is more reaſonable,—more philoſophical to account for them upon that ground, tho' liable to ſome difficulties, than from vague and arbitrary conjectures, which are liable to difficulties and objections ſtill greater.

W.

APHORISM.—Bow to him who bows not to the flatterer.—*Lavater.*

Improvement.

PURIFYING BAD WATER.

Mr. Raphaelle Peale, of Philadelphia, has communicated to Mr. Pouſon, editor of the American Daily Advertiſer, his newly diſcovered mode of purifying water, which probably combines as much uſefulneſs with ſimplicity, as any late diſcovery whatever. The following ſketch explains the operation:—

A barrel, keg or bucket may be uſed by boring a hole in its bottom. This hole muſt be covered with a piece of ſponge. One third of the veſſel muſt then be filled with powdered charcoal or common coals extinguiſhed by water—another third with river or beach ſand, and the remaining third to be left for the water intended to be purified. Mr. Peale ſtates that water, ever ſo obnoxious, will paſs through a veſſel thus prepared, cleared from all foreign matter, as ſweet and pelucid as the fineſt pump water. Experiments have been tried with water of a bright green colour, from a ſtagnant pond,—with the moſt putrid water, and with diſh-water—and all with ſucceſs.

BALANCE.

Miscellany.

FOR THE BALANCE.

THE RIVER ST. LAWRENCE.

Nature has formed America, particularly with reſpect to rivers, on a much larger ſcale than the other quarters of the globe. Among its moſt noble rivers is that of St. Lawrence. This river beginning at Lake Ontario, and extending to the ocean, is ſeven hundred and forty-three miles in length. At its mouth, it is ninety miles wide. At cape Cat, which is one hundred and forty miles from its mouth, the St. Lawrence is thirty miles wide. At Quebec, which is four hundred miles from its mouth, it is five miles wide. Up to this diſtance from the ocean, the river is navigable by ſhips of the line. At and near Kingſton, which is ſituated at the ſource of the St Lawrence, *that is*, ſeven hundred and forty-three miles from the ocean, the river is ſaid to be from two and a half to ſix miles wide. The channel of this river, it is reported, is better now than it was when the river was firſt diſcovered by civilized people. During the ſpring-floods, the waters from Lake-

Ontario ruſh down with ſuch rapidity and irreſiſtible force as to remove the beds of gravel and even large ſtones in the St. Lawrence; whereby its channel is gradually cleared, extended and deepened.

When the lands on either ſide of this vaſtly extenſive river ſhall be cultivated, immenſe will be the quantities of produce which it will waft to the ocean.

Z.

FOR THE BALANCE.

A CONSTANT reader of the Balance is of the opinion that the following characteriſtics, which, in days of yore, were from the pen of Governor Livingſton, are ſeaſonable, at the preſent time.

"*Characteriſtics of a good aſſembly-man.*

"1. To accept his delegation with a ſincere deſire, and for the ſole purpoſe of rendering his country all the ſervice in his power.

2. Seriouſly to conſider what laws will be moſt beneficial; induſtrious in collecting materials for framing them; and prompt to hear all men, eſpecially the moſt judicious, on the ſtate of his country; and the regulations propoſed to render it more flouriſhing and happy.

3. To make conſcience of doing his proper ſhare of buſineſs in the houſe, without leaving it to others to do his part, by which they muſt neceſſarily neglect their own; every member being bound in honour to do as much as he can.

4. Candidly and impartially to form his own judgment for himſelf, yet to be always open to conviction, and upon cogent arguments for that purpoſe, ready to change, and frankly to confeſs the change of his ſentiments.

5. To detach himſelf from all local partialities and county-intereſts, inconſiſtent with the public weal; and ever conſidering himſelf as the repreſentative of the whole ſtate, to be aſſiduous in promoting the intereſt of the whole, which muſt ultimately produce the good of every part.

7. In every vote he gives, to be ſolely directed by the public emolument; and never influenced in his ſuffrage by motives merely ſelfiſh or lucrative.

9. To be inflexible in his reſolution of acting agreeably to the dictates of his conſcience—to be utterly regardleſs of the applauſe or cenſure, that may enſue upon the diſcharge of his duty.

10. Never to be inſtrumental in promoting to any office or truſt his deareſt connections or intimates, whom he believes not qualified for the department; nor ever to oppoſe the promotion of any that are qualified, from perſonal pique or reſentment."

State Legislature.

ANSWER OF THE SENATE TO THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

SIR,

The continuance of the public tranquility, the growing proſperity of the ſtate, the attachment of our fellow-citizens to our happy conſtitution and their diſpoſition to pay due obedience to the laws, which your excellency has been pleaſed to mention, demand our grateful acknowledgments to that overruling Providence from which all our bleſſings proceed.

We are happy to find that, notwithſtanding the unwarrantable conduct of the Spaniſh Intendant at New-Orleans, to prevent the free navigation of the Miſſiſſippi, all cauſes of complaint will probably be removed by wiſe and temperate meaſures on the part of the executive of the United States; but if we ſhould be diſappointed in that reſpect, we have the higheſt confidence with your excellency that every exertion will be uſed by our citizens to vindicate our national rights againſt any power by which they may be invaded.

The execution of the various matters committed to your excellency's more immediate direction, during the receſs of the leigſlature, meets our full approbation; and it gives us much ſatisfaction to learn that the duties which were aſſigned to the different departments, have been executed with wiſdom and fidelity.

We are fully ſenſible of the neceſſity of repleniſhing our magazines with military ſtores in time of peace, and of making ſuch further appropriations for that purpoſe as the ſtate of the treaſury may warrant.

The increaſing attention to military duty by our citizens will excite us to make further improvements in our ſyſtem for the promotion of military diſcipline and the encouragement of military ardor.

It gives us great pleaſure to be informed that by the amelioration of our criminal code, the number of crimes has gradally diminiſhed for three years paſt, notwithſtanding the rapid increaſe of our population; a ſyſtem ſo ſucceſsful in its operation, and ſo congenial with the mild ſpirit of our free government, cannot fail to receive our warmeſt ſupport and encouragement.

The fiſcal concerns of this ſtate ſhall receive from us that early and deliberate attention which their importance demands, and we aſſure your excellency that we ſhall readily concur in every proper and economical meaſure to render our funds more productive and to ſupercede as far as may be practicable the neceſſity of recurring again to taxation.

The ſpeedy and regular ſettlement of that tract of land adjoining the Niagara river belonging to the ſtate, the preventing further waſtes and intruſions on the public lands, and the other important matters recommended by your excellency will demand our earlieſt attention.

Permit us to aſſure your Excellency, that we ſhall be happy in making the ſeſſion agreeable to you and beneficial to the ſtate.

By order of the Senate,

J. VAN RENSSELAER, *Preſ.*

Senate-Chamber, Jan. 28, 1803.

TO WHICH HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR MADE THE FOLLOWING REPLY:

GENTLEMEN,

I thank you for this reſpectful addreſs, and for the obliging manner in which you are pleaſed to expreſs your approbation of my conduct. It gives me peculiar ſatisfaction to find that you concur with me in opinion relative to the importance of the objects recommended to your conſideration, and I anticipate with pleaſure the public benefits that will be derived from your attention to them.

GEO: CLINTON.

Albany, Jan. 28, 1803.

ANSWER OF THE ASSEMBLY TO THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

SIR,

The Aſſembly are highly gratified with your Communication to both Houſes of the Legiſlature, and unite with your Excellency in "unfeigned gratitude" to the Supreme Diſpoſer of all events, for the continuance of public tranquility, and the increaſing proſperity of the State. We cannot however, veiw without concern the conduct of the Spaniſh Intendant at New Orleans, which, in the violation of the faith of Treaties, is calculated to obſtruct the enterpriſe and growing commerce of the citizens of the United States, and in a peculiar manner to affect our ſouthern brethren in depriving them in a great meaſure of the free navigation of the Miſſiſſippi. The ſenſibility excited on this occaſion is the natural reſult of injuries committed on the rights of a free people, who conſider national honour above all price, and are determined to ſupport it at every hazard. Under theſe impreſſions we believe that ſound policy as well as the dictates of humanity point out the propriety of attempting to obtain redreſs by negociation, before an appeal to arms, and therefore highly approve the wiſe and temperate meaſures of the Preſident to remove all cauſe of complaint. Should theſe fail, we have no doubt the people of this ſtate will be among the firſt

in firmneſs and patriotiſm to vindicate our national rights, " from whatever quarter they may be aſſailed."

The obedience to the laws manifeſted by our fellow citizens affords the higheſt ſatisfaction, and ought to ſerve as a new proof of the error of thoſe who inſiſt that the People are incapable of ſelf-government.—While ſuch ſentiments remain we have little to apprehend from the machinations or intrigues of foreign powers.

The fiſcal concerns of the ſtate are of the firſt importance. Our beſt endeavours will be exerted to render the funds more productive and to diminiſh the expence of government by appropriating the public money with the ſtricteſt economy. We cannot too highly approve the economical ſyſtem purſued by the general government, and the ſalutary effects reſulting from the wiſdom of its meaſures ; an example of ſuch high authority and ſo worthy of imitation will be purſued with undeviating attention.

Your uniform patriotiſm and ſolicitude for the public welfare, evinced by a long courſe of public ſervice, leave no reaſon to doubt of the faithful exerciſe of the various matters committed to your immediate direction. The various and important objects communicated by your Excellency ſhall receive the conſideration they merit. And permit us to ſay, that we boubt not your Excellency's co-operation in all thoſe meaſures which the happineſs of our fellow citizens or the public weal ſhall require.

TO WHICH HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR MADE THE FOLLOWING REPLY :

GENTLEMEN,

Permit me to tender you my warmeſt acknowledgments for this polite addreſs, and for the pleaſure I receive from the favorable opinion you are pleaſed to expreſs of my public ſervices.

The correct and patriotic ſentiments entertained by you reſpecting our national concerns, and the zeal which you manifeſt to promote the intereſt of the State, juſtify the high confidence repoſed in the wiſdom of the aſſembly : and cannot fail of being as pleaſing to your conſtituents, as they are gratifying to me.

GEO : CLINTON.

Albany, Feb. 4, 1803.

Columbian Congress.

FROM THE EVENING POST.

The following note, encloſing Mr. Morris's ſpeech was received by yeſterday's mail, but too late for publication in the Poſt of laſt evening. We preſent our ſincere thanks to the gentleman to whoſe polite attention we are indebted for this very obliging favour, and loſe not a moment in giving publicity to the forcible and eloquent ſpeech of our Senator.—Our readers will recollect, that under the adminiſtration of Mr. Adams, ſeveral perſons were appointed juſtices of the peace for the Diſtrict of Columbia, and their commiſſion regularly made out ; but as they were not delivered before Mr. Jefferſon came into office, he ſaw fit to ſuppreſs them. It became, therefore, a very important queſtion, whether the Preſident was authoriſed to withhold a commiſſion which under his predeceſſor had gone through all the forms of law but delivery. Accordingly, three of the juſtices who were in this ſituation, made application to the Supreme Court of the United States for the purpoſe of having this enquiry ſolemnly made and decided upon. The proceedings on this ſubject are ſtill pending, and the parties who inſtituted them have been adviſed by their counſel, that an extract from the minutes of the Senate confirming their nominations, would be material evidence in their behalf. They therefore preſented the memorial which is ſubjoined. The reſolution moved in conſequence of it gave occaſion to Mr. Morris's ſpeech.

If party zeal did not extinguiſh all regard for character not enliſted under its own particular banner, every claſs of our citizens would ſurely feel a pride in having our State repreſented by a man ſo diſtinguiſhed for genius, talents and eloquence, as Mr. Gouveneur Morris. But all emotions of this kind are ſtifled—In the mad rage for change, we ſee our country deprived of his ſervices, and another foiſted into his place, no more like him, than *a Satyr to Hyperion.*

SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

On the 28th of January laſt paſt, was preſented to the Senate the following petition, viz.

To the Honorable the Senate of the United States of America. The petition of William Marbury, Robert Townſend Hooe, and Dennis Ramſay, moſt reſpectfully ſheweth :

That your petitioners have been informed and verily believe, that John Adams, while Preſident of the United States, nominated to the Senate of the United States, for their advice and conſent, your petitioner William Marbury, to be a juſtice of the peace in the county of Waſhington, in the diſtrict of Columbia, and your petitioners Robert Townſend Hooe and Dennis Ramſay, to be juſtices of the peace in the county of Alexandria, in the ſame diſtrict ; that the ſaid nominations were duly taken into conſideration by the Senate, who on or about the firſt day of March, in the year one thouſand eight hundred and one, were pleaſed to give their advice and conſent that your petitioners ſhould be ſeverally appointed to the offices aforeſaid ; that commiſſions were accordingly in due form ſigned by the ſaid Preſident, and directed to be ſent to your petitioners by the Secretary of State, but that your petitioners, from ſome cauſe have been deprived of their commiſſions, and are reduced to the neceſſity of aſſerting their rights to the ſame in a judicial courſe of proceeding in which as they are adviſed it will be requiſite to produce ſatisfactory evidence of the advice and conſent of the Senate to the appointment of your petitioners to be juſtices of the peace as aforeſaid, in the diſtrict of Columbia. Application has been made to the Secretary of the Senate for his certificate that the advice and conſent of the Senate was given in conſequence of the nominations aforeſaid, that your petitioners ſhould be appointed to be juſtices of the peace in the diſtrict of Columbia aforeſaid, which your Secretary has declined giving without the leave of the Senate. Your petitioners pray the premiſes may be taken into conſideration, and that your Secretary may be permitted to give to your petitioners a certificate in uſual form, ſetting forth that your petitioners having been nominated by the Preſident of the United States to the aforeſaid offices, ſeverally and reſpectively of juſtices of the peace in the diſtrict of Columbia, the Senate adviſed and conſented to their appointment. And as in duty bound, &c.

WILLIAM MARBURY.
R. T. COOE.
DENNIS RAMSAY.

The petition was laid on the table, and on Monday the 31ſt January, was called up by Mr. Howard, and the following reſolution was preſented by him for the purpoſe of granting in form, the prayer of the petition.

" *Reſolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to give an atteſted copy of the proceedings of the Senate of the 2d and 3d of March, 1801, ſo far as they relate to the nomination and appointment of William Marbury, Robert T. Hooe and Dennis Ramſay, as juſtices of the peace for the counties of Waſhington and Alexandria, in the territory of Columbia, on the application of them or either of them."

MR. COLEMAN,

I was in the Senate Chamber yeſterday, where I heard and was delighted with a ſpeech delivered by Mr. Gouverneur Morris, one of the Senators of your State, upon a ſubject which had excited conſiderable intereſt in this place, and was regarded of no little importance on account of

its novelty, as well as of the principles involved in it.

Upon returning to my lodgings, I endeavoured to recollect and commit it to writing, that the gratification it afforded me, might be in some measure participated by my fellow citizens upon the perusal.

A JERSEYMAN.

[The speech of Mr. Morris will be published in our next.]

Be it our weekly task,
To note the passing tidings of the times.

Hudson, *February* 22, 1803.

Our readers must have observed, that Mr. DAVIS, a democratic member of Congress, from Kentucky, has of late proved extremely troublesome to his party in the house of Representatives. He has, in a firm and independent tone, expressed his indignation at the childish manner in which the unwarrantable conduct of the Spaniards at New-Orleans, has been treated; and he has dealt forth such weighty blows, that it has been found expedient either to get rid of him, or to administer an *anodyne*, for the purpose of abating his watchfulness. Our worthy president has, therefore, appointed Mr. DAVIS a judge of the Indiana Territory!

The Hon. JOHN Q. ADAMS, of Massachusetts, is elected a Senator of the United States.

BONAPARTE has banished Gen. TOUSSAINT, to the Island of Elba.

In the numerous and respectable list of the patrons of this paper, John Walker, of Albermarle, appears as one. A few weeks ago, he came down to Richmond. He brought along with him a celebrated correspondence, which the Recorder has more than once hinted at, as being on the point of publication. He shewed this to a number of gentlemen, several of whom we must, for the tenth time, affirm, that we can produce in a court of justice. Mr. Walker was advised to postpone the publication. The reason we take to be this. It is still almost two years till the election of the next president It was suspected that the horrible infamy of the contents of a part of this correspondence might have its edge blunted in 18 months of newspaper repercussion. That the letters will be printed, first or last, there can be no question.

[*Recorder.*]

A letter from Washington of Feb. 10, says—The Supreme Court this day had under consideration the motion made at the last term, for a rule upon the Secretary of State to appear and shew cause, why a *mandamus* should not issue for the commissions of certain magistrates, who were appointed by Mr. Adams, whose appointments were approved by the Senate, and whose commissions were signed and sealed, but not delivered, when Mr. Jefferson came into office. Mr Lincoln, the attorney-general, who at one time acted as Secretary of State, was summoned as a witness, to testify whether he had any knowledge of such commissions in the office of state—He refused to testify—and the court allowed him to consider the subject until to-morrow, and come to a final determination whether he will testify or not.

[*Evening Post.*]

By the Mars, arrived at Philadelphia from New-Orleans, which she left the 17th ult. we learn that the dispatch-boat from our government had reached there previous to her departure, and the Intendant, so far from relaxing, or regarding the recommendations of the Chevalier de Yrujo to restore the right of deposit, treated his interference with the utmost contempt, and persisted in his conduct with unabated rigor. It is further stated, that no other opinion was entertained at New-Orleans, than that the Intendant was acting from *positive instructions* from his Court, which were considered as originating with France. That both political parties at Natches (which he left the 6th of Jan.) were in favor of immediate and energetic measures of redress, and were fully persuaded with the inhabitants of New-Orleans, that the executive would enforce the restoration of our rights.

[*Ibid.*]

FROM THE NATCHEZ GAZETTE,
OF JANUARY 3.

ADVERTISEMENT.

Under the date of the 16th inst. the Intendant General of the provinces tells me that the citizens of the United States of America, can have no commerce with His Majesty's subjects—they only having the free navigation of the river for the exportation of the fruits and produce of their establishment to foreign countries and the importation of what they may want for them—as such I charge you so far as respects you, to be zealous and vigilant, with particular care, that the inhabitants neither purchase or sell any thing to the shipping, flatbottomed boats, barges, or any other small vessels, that may go along the river, destined for the American possessions, or proceeding from them, that they shall be informed of it, for their due compliance of the same.

(Signed) *Carlos De Grandpree.*

Baron Rouge, Dec. 22, 1802.

The Knot.

"Celestial happiness, whene'er she stoops
To visit earth, one shrine the goddess finds,
And one alone to make her sweet amends
For absent Heav'n—The bosom of a friend;
Where heart meets heart, reciprocally soft,
Each other's pillow to repose divine."

YOUNG.

MARRIED,

In this city, on Thursday evening last, Mr. PETER COLE, to Miss ELIZA HAMILTON, daughter of Dr. Joseph Hamilton, of this city.

The Knell.

In this city, last Tuesday evening, very suddenly, Capt. GILES FRARY, in the 42d year of his age. He was a man of singular enterprize and dispatch in business; and, cut off as he has been in the meridian of life and from the vigorous pursuit of business that nearly affects the public interest,* the loss sustained by his death, as well to the pubic as to his sorrowful family, is deeply felt.

* *The opening and compleating of extensive turnpike roads, on the East and West sides of the North River.*

To Correspondents.

"*The Negro,*" by HORATIO, is an interesting tale; but we are doubtful whether its publication would be attended with any beneficial effects. We are as decidedly opposed to Negro Slavery as our correspondent, but the subject has been so much and so ably handled, that we believe it nearly or quite exhausted.

We acknowledge the receipt of a packet from an unknown and distant "Friend." Directions will be followed.

"ELIZA's *Advice to Married Ladies,*" is under consideration.

The Wreath.

FROM THE PORT FOLIO.

THE BARD TO HIS CANDLE.

BY A FRIEND.

HAIL, bright-companion of my lonely hours!
My midnight sun, with faintly glimm'ring ray,
To thee thy master now a sonnet pours,
Accept the verse—'tis all the bard can pay.

When solemn darkness veils the gloom spread earth,
And Night with sable sceptre, rules the plain,
What time pale Fear gives fancied spectres birth,
And imag'd terrors fill the vulgar brain.

Then to my silent chamber I retire,
Where books and musing solitude invite,
With secret pleasure trim my cheerful fire,
And from its flame my frugal taper light.

More dear to me thy little quivering rays
Which scarce illume my silent study round,
Than the proud glare where thousand torches blaze,
And Mirth and Folly pour their mingled sound.

These spread their light, with glitt'ring radiance fraught,
To chace reflection from the heedless throng;
Thy sober beam assists the poet's thought,
Inspires the lay, and tunes his soul to song.

By thy lone light, full oft the muse has wove,
Or tale, or song in Fancy's flowing loom;
Oft has she breath'd in plaintive notes of love,
And mourn'd her fate, a hapless lover's doom.

Thou sole companion of each anxious care,
Did'st yield sweet solace in this pensive hour,
My bosom's various thought did'st seem to share,
And rise or fall with sympathetic power.

When transient joy beam'd rapture to my breast,
In Fancy's eye I saw thee brighter shine;
And when my heart some hov'ring fear confest,
With gloom congenial did thy flame decline.

To thee the poet's grateful song is due,
To thee, my friend, (for social is thy kind,)
More than companion, thou'rt a teacher too,
And much of moral shew'st the observant mind.

Thy gradual waste, in unperceiv'd decay,
May well, to man, a moral lesson teach,
Thus glide his years in silent course away
Towards that bourne we all are doom'd to reach.

Be thou my friend—and as thy lustre mine;
And when life's lamp but gleams with feeble power,
Clear as thy flame may parting reason shine,
Warm in decay and bright in life's last hour.

EPIGRAM.

FROM "THE METEORS."

I BOUGHT a horse; the owner swore
He had no fault, was far from vicious:
Thus much was well, I ask'd no more,
Not choosing to be thought capricious.

When, lo! to my surprise, I find,
This *faultless* horse is almost blind.
In haste, I hie me back to meet
My jockey; find him—"Sir, this cheat,
Will never do; the nag's unsound,
Has not an eye to see the ground;"
Friend, quoth the man, as sharp as salt,
'Tis his *misfortune*—not his *fault*.

Diversity.

ADVICE ON A TRIVIAL SUBJECT.

TWO persons, meeting together in a narrow pass-way, often embarrass and seemingly insult one another, while the most friendly complaisance is mutually meant.

One skips aside to give the other the way; and the other, as if both had received an electrical shock, skips in the same direction, so that they exactly meet and nearly strike their heads together. Half-confused by this disaster, they leap together to the other side of the way, and again meet, cheek by jowl. I have seen a gentleman and a lady dance this figure, till, in the words of Milton, "Confusion became worse confounded."

Now there is a sure and easy way to avoid this embarrassment: that is, whenever you perceive this skipping dance beginning, only *stand still*, and let the other party pass.

BALANCE.

GEOGRAPHICAL.

IT has been reported, that, while Bonaparte was in Egypt, two fashionable ladies in this country (*novel-readers*, we conclude) had a warm dispute whether Egypt is separated from England *by the red sea, or by the river Nile.* This learned dispute was, by mutual consent, left to the decision of a gentleman.

A YOUNG man, the other day, relating the adventures of an unfortunate ride with a lady, very seriously concludes thus: "I drove down the hill to a bridge with full force, when the carriage wheel came off, and the first land we made, *was up to our necks in water!*" [*Extract.*]

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